

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 10-17 and 19-28 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 3, 17, 19, 21-23, 25, 27 and 28 are presently under examination.

Applicant's attorney acknowledges with thanks the recent telephone conferences with Examiner Ahmed on November 13 and November 30, 2009, and the voice mail from the Examiner on November 20, 2009, prompted by the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment.

As a result of the above-described telephone conferences with the Examiner and the voice mail from the Examiner on November 20, 2009, it was agreed that prosecution can be resumed on the basis of this submission of an explanation of the Amendment filed by Applicant's attorney on July 24, 2009, vis-à-vis the restriction requirement of February 9, 2007, and the response thereto of March 12, 2007.

As discussed with the Examiner, the Amendment filed on July 24, 2009, has added further description to the claims so that the current claims fall into Group II (a medical article comprising a first and second polymer). However, there are no longer any claims currently presented for examination that fall into Group I (where the polymeric carrier has only a first polymer). Accordingly, the Examiner is amenable to examination of the current claims.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of Claims 1, 3, 17, 19, 21-23, 25, 27 and 28 and early passage of this case to issue is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes there are still unresolved issues, a telephone call to the undersigned would be welcomed.

Respectfully submitted,

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